



# MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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## THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

### REPORT

of the Committee of the Ken. Co. Ag. Soc. on Wheat,  
Barley, Oats, Corn, Rye, Peas, &c. &c.

To the TRUSTEES of the Ken. Co. Ag. SOCIETY:—The committee appointed to examine the claims of competitors for the premiums offered by you for the best crops on wheat, barley, oats, corn, rye, oats and peas, beans, seed corn, and early peas—beg leave to report—that for the premium on wheat, there were two competitors viz: Mr. Eliphalet Folsom of Monmouth, and Mrs. Content W. Hains, of Winthrop. It was with no small pleasure that we found one lady willing to enter the lists and throw down the glove to the farmers of Kennebec in an agricultural contest.—Indeed we found our gallantry coming to the rescue, and we felt somewhat fearful that had the facts in the case been different, our judgment would have been warped in favor of the fair, to the detriment of some of the other competitors. But in this case the facts conspired to harmonize both, and enabled us to yield the premium to the most deserving as well as to the most fair.

You will see by the statements herewith sent in, that Mrs. Hains raised twenty-nine bushels of Tea wheat, per acre, on ground that had been planted with corn the year before and manured with six cords of manure.

Mr. Folsom, whose statement is also herewith submitted raised twenty and a half bushels of Black Sea wheat per acre without any manure excepting 40 bushels of slack lime applied the year before, to a crop of peas and oats.

We therefore recommend that the first premium offered by your society for wheat, be given to Mrs. Content W. Hains, and the second to Eliphalet Folsom.

CORN.—The competitors for your premium on Corn were Mrs. Hains and Maj. Elijah Wood. Here too, the facts in the case, warrant us to give the crown to the lady, albeit her opponent was a veteran long known as a successful agriculturist. We trust, that although vanquished in this contest, his habitual respect and regard for the female character, will lend him to rejoice in his defeat, and enable him to submit with a much better grace to the decision than if it had been the reverse. The soil on which Mrs. Hains' corn grew, is a yellow loam. It was manured with four cords of manure per acre, with lime and ashes applied to the hill. The yield was one hundred and thirty-two bushels of ears. One bushel of ears it was proved when shelled, afforded 17 1/2 quarts of corn.

The soil on which Major Wood's corn grew, is a clay loam. Upon it he put a considerable unfermented manure, (and the Major is a pretty considerate man) together with a shovel full of old well rotted manure in the hill and a spoonfull of plaster also.

The crop was sixty-nine baskets full of ears of corn per acre. On enquiry as to the contents of the basket, it appeared to measure two bushels, but as there was more manure used on the Major's field than on Mrs. Hains', we recommend that the first premium be given to Mrs. Hains, and the second to Major Wood.

SEED CORN.—Only two specimens of seed corn were submitted to us for inspection, viz: by Eliphalet Folsom and Rufus Moody, both of Monmouth. They award the premium to R. Moody, though it is dif-

ficult to see much difference in them, all things considered.

BARLEY.—Three competitors appeared for your premiums on Barley. These were Eliphalet Folsom of Monmouth, E. C. Snell of Winthrop and Oakes Howard of Winthrop.

Mr. Folsom's crop was raised on land previously cultivated with corn. He sowed on two bushels, of two rowed barley. He obtained 45 bushels per acre and half, that is 30 bushels per acre. Mr. Snell sowed his on land previously cultivated to corn. He put on two and a half bushels per acre and obtained thirty bushels per acre.

Mr. Howard sowed his crop upon land cultivated last year with corn. He put on three bushels of seed and obtained 29 bushels to the acre.

Your committee decide that E. C. Snell receive the first premium, and that Eliphalet Folsom receive the second.

PEAS.—Two entries were made for the premium on peas, viz. E. Folsom and J. Fairbanks, but only one statement was presented which is herewith submitted. We award your premium to E. Folsom.

BEANS.—One entry was made for the premium upon beans, by Mr. Carlton, but no statement was made and no one appeared to give us any information respecting it.

PEAS & OATS.—But one entry was made for the best crop of Peas & Oats. Mr. Alfred Chandler of Winthrop made it appear by his statements that he raised fifty-three bushels per acre, and your committee think him entitled to your first premium on that crop.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. HOLMES, Per Order.

To the Committee on Wheat:—Having made an entry for a premium on wheat, I will endeavor to make a correct statement of the manner of raising the same. The land on which the wheat was raised, is of a deep yellow loam, was ploughed up in the fall of '38, and planted to corn in the spring of '39; there was about six cords of manure put to the acre. The last spring, it was ploughed and sowed with the Tea wheat, about 25 bushels to the acre, with no dressing of any kind. There was harvested from one acre, twenty-nine bushels of good clean wheat. The expense of raising the wheat about the same as it usually costs to cultivate the same amount of land.

CONTENT W. HAINS.

Winthrop, Dec. 15, 1840.  
To the Committee on Wheat Crops:—I enter my crop of wheat for the Society's premium. In 1838 I broke up one half of which was pasture ground, and the other was worn out land in my field, that produced little grass, and sowed it with oats and peas. In the spring (1839) I planted the same with potatoes, with no manure except 40 bushels of slack lime. In the spring of 1840, I ploughed the same and sowed, without manure, one bushel and fourteen quarts of Black Sea wheat, which seed, I obtained from New Hampshire; and, from the same, I harvested twenty and one half bushels of good wheat, a fair specimen of which, I have already presented. The soil is of clay loam.

E. FOLSON.

Monmouth, Dec. 17, 1840.  
P. S. The above wheat was sowed on the 21st of May last, and harvested about the middle of August.

To the Committee on Crops—GENTLEMEN:—Having made an entry for a premium on corn, I will give you a statement of the manner of raising the same. The land on which I raised my corn is a very deep yellow soil, southerly cant. It was ploughed in the fall of 1839, and had been cropped for several years previous with the scythe. There were about four cords of green manure spread on the acre and harrowed in. It was then chained out in rows about three feet apart, and the corn was then dropped in hills about 2 1/2 feet

apart, and from five to seven kernels in a hill, with about a table spoonfull of lime and ashes to the hill, with about the same quantity of the same to the hill after the first time hoeing. It was hoed twice. There was harvested and measured from one acre of land one hundred and thirty two bushels of ears of sound corn, one bushel of which was shelled and made 17 1/2 quarts, (together with five loads of pumpkins.)

CONTENT W. HAINS.

Winthrop, Dec. 18th, 1840.

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

HARTLEY WADLEY.

To the Committee on Indian corn, &c.—We claim the Society's premium offered on Indian corn. Our corn was raised on land which is what may be called a clay loam. The land had been mowed for three years previous to the corn, and produced a good crop of hay each year. In the fall of 1839 it was ploughed about six inches deep. In the spring there was spread upon the land a considerable of a dressing of new unfermented manure from the barn yard, and worked in with the cultivator. It was then furrowed out, north and south, rather more than three feet apart, for the rows. In the furrows was dropped a small shovel full of old rotted manure, at about each two feet distance, and a teaspoonful of plaster was put on to the dung, and from six to ten kernels of corn, and covered with a hand hoe. A pumpkin seed was dropped with the corn in almost every hill. The pumpkins and corn grew together. One acre as measured produced sixty-nine baskets full of ear, together with about another basket full traced for seed. We began to feed the pumpkins to the hogs early in the season. We estimate the pumpkins at from eight to ten cart loads. It was hoed twice, and the weeds cut out the third time, and the corn was reduced to five stalks in a hill at the first going. The number of kernels dropped in a hill was more than I wished to stand, so that if some had been eaten by the cut worm, I might have had enough notwithstanding. The kind of corn planted was the eight rowed variety called the Lane corn.

ELIJAH WOOD, for himself and son

LEWIS WOOD

Winthrop, Dec. 19, 1840.

To the Committee on Seed Corn:—The specimen of early seed corn which I present for the society's premium is a mixed variety which I obtained in the following manner. In the first place I obtained about one third of an ear of corn of a traveler, who had a few ears in his sleigh which he said was raised two hundred miles north of this, in the year 1832, which will be recollected was a poor corn year. In '33, I planted what I received, and in '34 a small piece of ground with the product of '33—'35 I did nothing at farming—'36 planted one acre of corn with seed obtained from Joel Chandler's in Winthrop, except four rows twenty five rods long which was of the product of '34. When the corn began to ripen, I commenced picking for seed from the four rows which was the earliest corn and as the other began to ripen I picked from it until I had obtained a sufficient quantity for seed in the spring of '37. I selected the best from both parcels, enough to plant one acre, and have continued to select the earliest and best from each succeeding crop for seed. My land is not early; it is a clay loam. I planted the three years previous to the last, the last day of May, and the first day of June; this year the 27th, 28th, and 29th of May. Its yield is like all other corn, according to the chance you give it. This year I planted one acre and a half—it had a very ordinary chance—sixty-five bushels was the amount of the crop.

RUFUS MOODY.

P. S. Last year it was planted the eleventh and twelfth of June, and got ripe.

To the Committee on Corn—Gentlemen:—I enter my crop of Seed corn for the Society's premium. In 1836 I raised on my farm in Monmouth a good kind of Seed corn. In 1837 I planted the same together with the Canada corn; in the fall of the same year, I went through my field and plucked off the earliest and full ears for seed—was particular to take ears from the stalks that had two ears on them;—and preserved the same with care. I have planted the same seed ever

since, and think I shall plant it for several years to come. I flatter myself that I am able to present you with an improved variety of Seed corn, hardy in its growth, early in its maturity, and well suited to the climate of "Down East," which, in contradistinction to the Early Tree Corn, I have called the Fall Bush Corn. I planted the same seed on the 18th of May last, had green corn on the 25th of July, and some of same ground for use on the last of July. The corn I have raised the past summer has weighed 68 pounds per bushel. Respectfully yours,

E. FOLSOM.

Monmouth, Dec. 17th, 1840.

To the Committee on the Crop of Peas:—I enter my crop of marrowfat peas for the Society's premium. I sowed my peas April 1st, 1840, on light dry land, quite overrun with thistles; the thistles kept them from falling down; the season was quite forward. I gathered some on the 3d of July—had a plenty of them on the 8th of the same month. E. FOLSOM.

Monmouth, Dec. 17, 1840.

To the Committee on Oats and Peas:—The land on which I sowed my oats and peas last spring, had been mowed three or four years previously. It is a yellow loam inclining to a little clay. I ploughed it last spring and did not put on any manure, but it had some benefit from the wash of the barn.

I sowed the piece on the 11th of May with three bushels and a half of peas and oats and harrowed them in, and passed the roller over them. I also sowed on about a bushel of plaster after they were up.

They escaped the rust by being sowed and I had fiftythree bushels per acre weighing thirty four pounds to the bushel. Respectfully yours,

ALFRED CHANDLER.

Winthrop, Dec. 1840.

To the Committee on Barley:—I claim the Society's premium on my crop of barley, for the following reasons, namely: in 1838 there were about fifteen hundred pounds of hay cut upon the ground, where this crop grew. It was broken up in September following. In 1839 it was planted to corn, and there was about six cords of old manure put on, the principal part in the hole. It was hoed twice, and in the fall the hills were split then ploughed down fine. In 1840, May 26th, I sowed two bushels and one half of barley, after I had been over it once with my cultivator, and then it was harrowed twice, well. I have harvested thirty-eight bushels of first rate, two rowed barley, from one acre of ground. Yours with respect,

E. COPELAND SNELL.

Winthrop, Dec. 19, 1840.

To the Committee on Barley, &c.—Gentlemen:—The soil on which I raised my crop of Barley is a sandy loam. In the summer of 1838 it was in grass. In the spring of 1839 I spread about five cords of coarse manure on to an acre, and ploughed it in, and planted it to corn, and had a fair crop. In the spring of 1840 I ploughed it and sowed it to barley, at the rate of three bushels to the acre without any manure except what was used for the corn crop. I mowed it, hauled it to the barn, and thrashed it with a machine, and on one acre I had twenty-nine bushels of barley. OAKES HOWARD.

Winthrop, Dec. 11, 1840.

To the Committee on Barley:—I enter for the Society's premium on the barley crop. I broke up my ground in the fall of 1838—1839 planted it with corn, with ten loads of manure. In April 1840 ploughed and sowed the same with three bushels of two rowed barley, with no manure—harvested forty-five bushels of good, clear barley, from the same ground, measuring one and half acres. E. FOLSOM.

Monmouth, Dec. 17, 1840.

Original.

#### IMPROVEMENT.

IN WHAT CAN WE IMPROVE?—WHAT CAN WE MAKE BETTER?

Something has been said and written of late relating to improvement in our winter town schools, which has caused me to ask if there might not be improvements in almost every thing. Where is the farmer who cannot improve in his business, by procuring more manure, by improving his cattle, sheep, swine, &c. &c.? I would also put this question to the mechanic. The horse shoer should inquire if he cannot improve in his calling, in some way, by saving coal, iron, or steel, or by making better work for his customers. So with the shoemaker. Would it not be more for his interest, and for the interest of his customers, for him to keep a memorandum book in which to enter every promise which he makes for work, and have it done punctually at the time agreed? So with most of our mechanics. If this was generally followed, we should not hear the observation "like a shoemaker's promise—next week, next week."

Cannot our "better halves" make some improvements in cookery, if they were to set themselves about it in earnest? The farmer, mechanic and cook, may all no doubt be benefitted by exchanging thoughts and ideas with each other. All should believe that they

may in this way know a thing or two more than their fathers and mothers knew.

In the great city of New-York, we are told, every idle one disposed to keep a shanty, if he can pay five dollars, can obtain a license to sell distilled spirits, and thereby make paupers. For the inhabitants of that very city to maintain; of course they have had to build an Almshouse at great cost. Thousands are ruined, some die drunk, many lawsuits occur, and many innocent wives and children are abused in consequence. Now I inquire if it would not be an improvement not to license those shanties? This question may be applicable to much of our conduct in the State of Maine.

Would it not be an improvement if our young females would pay more attention to the truly useful branches of education and knowledge, and less to lashing a slab, not improperly called a consumption slab, around their carcasses, to disfigure and ruin them in the end?

Would it not be an improvement if more attention were paid to the tact of schoolmasters and parents in keeping order? Would it not be an improvement if school masters should give out no new lessons until scholars thoroughly understand those already began?

Would it not be a beneficial improvement to the agricultural interest, if some Agricultural periodical were introduced into our winter schools, as intimated by our friend Salathiel in a late No. of the Farmer? He truly says that the agricultural and mechanical portion of our citizens comprise two thirds of the whole population. Would it not be an improvement if our Halls of Legislation were two thirds filled with farmers and mechanics? Why is it not so? It is certainly the fault of the farmers and mechanics themselves, and if they were to arouse themselves, and do what it is perhaps their interest and duty to do, that worthy class of gentlemen, the Lawyers, would have more time to read their books and think for the benefit of their clients. Why will not farmers and mechanics, who have the staff in their own hands, use it to their advantage? Does not a sound practical mechanic or farmer know better what is for the interest of two thirds of the community than an individual who belongs to another class?

Would it not be an improvement in a moral point of view, were all persons to set their faces like a flint against shanties, intemperance, profanity, and the disgusting and expensive practice of using a stinking weed called tobacco? Would it not be an improvement if we were to decline running in debt or taking credit as much as heretofore, and also be more punctual in our engagements?

Would it not be an improvement were our ladies to consider their income and means of paying more than getting fine clothes, and thus endeavor to live within their means? Many a father and good husband has reason to regret the want of reflection of his daughters and wife in this particular, for they would not certainly do any thing so improper knowingly, tending to injure their best friend. Boys should not run their fathers in debt for fine clothes.

Would it not be an improvement were farmers to see that their tools when not in use are always under cover, and that their barns and stables are double boarded, or in some way made warmer, and that leaves and straw be procured to litter their cattle with? We like to lodge dry, and so do our cattle, besides this would also be adding to our manure heap.

Would it not be useful for farmers to write down in their memorandum book as near as can be, or has been ascertained, the precise time of the gestation of their several female animals? For want of this many young animals have cruelly suffered and died.

In fine, what is there which is not susceptible of improvement? If we would think more, and not rest satisfied with the attainments of our fathers and mothers, we should undoubtedly succeed better. Look at the improvement in steam propelling power, and the thousand and one other improvements, which have resulted from study and reflection. The above hints are enough to show that much may yet be done by thought, investigation, and well directed, efficient action. Here I will stop for the present, to think.

E. F.

N B Can there be no improvement, in having more care in setting types?

#### FARM SCHOOLS.

We have ever been favorable to schools in which farming business and mechanical trades may be united with other objects of education. Several years ago, in the excellent regulations of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb at Hartford, Conn. we witnessed the process of instruction in various kinds of labor. Particularly were we at one time interested in the performance with the needle of a young female from the State of New Hampshire, who was both deaf and dumb and blind. It is all but inconceivable how any one deprived of sight, of hearing and necessarily of speech should be instructed to do any thing. In the absence of the greater faculties, the subordinate senses are made to supply their place. The touch enables the blind mute to distinguish not only substances but colors—to identify both living beings and inanimate

objects: the smell is likewise an assistant which comes in continued aid to the operations of the mind. Under a course of careful instruction the deaf and the blind are taught the purposes and the enjoyments of life, and the utterly helpless how to become their own helpers.

To the deaf and dumb at Hartford the value of instruction in the different kinds of labor by both males and females, has been manifest in various directions. Matrimonial connexions of the two sexes have there been formed while both were deaf and dumb, in which the parties entered on the business of life with all the alacrity and success of those who could both hear and speak. There is a farmer in Merrimack County who manages his concerns with great prudence and discretion, and who has thriven in property, married to a mute who also acts well her part in the drama of life; and this pair we have been told are rearing up an interesting family of children who are bright in the faculties of which the parents are deprived. This pair received their education at Hartford, and were taught not only the rudiments which open to them all the advantages of language, but the male was there instructed in the business of the farm, and the female in the management of household affairs, in the use of the spinning wheel and needle and in the economy of the kitchen.

Among the charitable institutions that are peculiarly characteristic of the city of Boston, where there is a commendable zeal to minister to the wants of every destitute and afflicted child of Adam our attention has been called to the "Farm School for Indigent Boys" instituted in 1833, for "the education and reformation of boys, who from the loss of their parents or other causes, are exposed to extraordinary temptation, and are in danger of becoming vicious and dangerous, or useless members of society;" and which in 1835 was united with another charitable institution located within in the city of Boston, for the purpose of "relieving, instructing and employing Indigent Boys" belonging to that town, which has been in operation more than twenty years.

For the purpose of that Institution, Thompson's, one of the many islands that beautify Boston harbor, was purchased at the price of \$6000. It is four miles from the city, and from one quarter, to one mile and a half from the surrounding shores of the town of Dorchester. It contains one hundred and forty acres of land; and the soil, which consists of a rich loam, with a light subsoil, is well adapted to the raising of all the grains and vegetables usually cultivated in New England.

The establishment at Thompson's island is situated on the highest part of the island, and commands an extensive and beautiful view of the city, its harbor and the surrounding country; the main building is 105 by 36 feet from outside to outside, with a projection 39 by 25 feet. The dining hall, school-room and bed room, are 48 by 33 feet each; and the family rooms are about 20 by 17 feet. It is a neat and substantial brick edifice: the outside course of the entire building is laid in Connecticut cement, and the inside is plastered with the same.

In the years of 1837 and 1838 the estimated annual produce of the farm was \$4500; and the expense incurred in farming operations, exclusive of the board and salary of the superintendent, and the board of hired men, was about \$1000: about \$1500 each year was realized from the sales of produce which was not consumed on the island.

The establishment is under the direction of a board of Managers; of whom the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are members *ex officio*: these reside in the city. The immediate direction is under a superintendent, a matron and an instructor of the school. The expenses of the institution ever and above the income from the property at the island, and the interest on \$37,000 invested, amount to about 3000 per annum, for which it depends entirely on the annual contributions of its members and such donations as benevolent individuals may from time to time contribute. The expenses of the Institution for the year 1838, including victualling, salaries and wages of domestics, clothing, fuel, furniture and repairs, expense of farm, with produce of the farm consumed, estimated at \$3000, amounted in the whole to \$9327.73.

With regard to discipline, the object is to combine moral and intellectual culture, with regular labor upon the farm, or at other useful employments.

A school is kept, both morning and afternoon, for about six hours daily, in which reading, writing, geography and grammar, are taught. During the evening especially in the winter months, instruction is also given in the first principles of agriculture, horticulture and botany—the different kinds of soil, the most important processes of cultivation, the names, uses and distinctive qualities of seeds, plants and trees are explained and illustrated.

Sunday school and other religious instruction is constantly kept up.

During the season of farming operations, the larger boys assist on the farm six to seven hours in the day, under the care of the superintendent, who is a practical farmer. In the winter season, only a few boys are needed for out of door work: these serving in rotation

the remainder attend school. The average of school-going through the year is five hours each: the small boys more. Besides laboring upon the farm, the boys knit, mend and make clothes, wash, iron, cook, and perform much of the services about house. The object is to make them skilful, practical farmers: and they are taught to prepare the ground, sow the seed, hoe and weed, and gather in grain and vegetables. Much of the lighter work is done by the boys.

During the past summer an extensive piggery more than one hundred feet in length, with yards for the deposit of materials and manufacture of manure, has been constructed. The cultivated ground has been annually improved by the manure which has been made, or by the marine manure which has been gathered on the shores of the island: the carrots and other roots grow here to unusual size.

The persons at this time employed at the Institution, are a superintendent, a teacher, two farmers, a matron, and four female assistants. There are now eighty boys, whose ages average fourteen years.

The stock of the farm is 4 oxen, 14 cows, 1 horse, 20 sheep and 50 swine. The land under cultivation by the plough is 22 acres; of which the present year 6 1/2 was rye, 7 Indian corn, 1 potatoes, 1 beans, (which failed from blight) 1 1/4 acre asparagus, 1 acre ruta baga, 1 acre sugar beet, 1 1/8 acre carrots, 1 1/8 acre other garden vegetables, 1 acre round turnips being a second crop. The estimated mowing ground was 30 acres, exclusive of marshes.

The superintendent of the island farm is Mr. JAMES W. LOCKE, formerly of Peterborough, N. H.

In addition to the foregoing facts, the editor of the *Visitor* has been furnished with the following, which shows a production rarely to be met with on farms of the same size in the interior:

*Product of the Thompson Island Farm for Indigent Boys in the year 1840.*

150 bushels Rye worth	68 cts.	\$97 50
400 " Corn	70	280 00
2500 " Potatoes	40	1000 00
1000 " Beets	30	300 00
800 " Ruta Baga,	30	240 00
500 " Round Turnips	30	150 00
10 " Beans	200	20 00
200 " Carrots	50	100 00
Consumed vegetables estimated,	200 00	
Asparagus	20 00	
75 tons English Hay at	\$16	1200 00
10 " Marsh "	10	100 00
15 " Straw	10	150 00
12 " Corn tops & butts	15	180 00
200 lbs. Butter	17 cts	34 00
4500 gallons Milk	25 "	1125 00
Increase in number and value of Swine,	300 00	
10 Calves weighing 100 lbs. at 6 cts.	60 00	
Profit on Poultry,	20 00	
6 lbs. Winter Apples at	\$2	12 00
400 lbs. Citron Melons	4 cts.	16 00
300 " Mush Melons	2	6 00
300 " Water Melons	2	6 00
15 oxcart loads Pumpkins and Squashes estimated at 3 dollars per load,	45 00	
1000 Cabbages at 6 cents per head,	60 00	
Outlay for cultivating, exclusive of interest on value of farm stock, tools, &c.	\$5751 50	
Balance.	\$5251 50	

[The estimated value which our correspondent puts upon most of the articles raised, is too high for the country. But reduce the sum one-third for any exaggeration, and the cash product of the farm would be great in proportion to the amount of land under cultivation.]—*Monthly Visitor.*

### SEAWEED.

DEAR SIR:—What do your friends think of seaweed as a manure? Here we are as much divided as the judges in Martinus Scriblerus were whether the three pied horses were black or white. One says he can ruin the best land with it in five years; another declares that by using it he can convert "Poverty point" into another vale of Evesham. At one of our harbors the only use made of it is to load vessels with it for Taunton and Providence rivers where it fetches one dollar per ton!!! At another part of our island it is used with excellent effect as a top-dressing.

I made up my mind years ago. I believe it to be beneficial on all soils as a top-dressing; but useful on heavy soils only when ploughed in, and that even there it should be used not more than one year in six. Eel grass is altogether different. Ploughed in to any soil it gives for one year a better crop than any kind of barn manure.

Some years ago, before I exchanged beef and pudding for soups and syllabubs—that is, before I gave up farming for trade—I ploughed a field which had a

couple of acres of very poor land in it. On a strip running through the middle of it and being rather poorer than either side, I ploughed in ten large loads of eel grass, very rich and slimy. I planted the whole with corn; that which had the eel grass was at least thirty bushels to the acre; that which had none, was over-estimated at the seed. I could make an affidavit to the truth of this, and I have seen the like result for at least ten successive years. Mr. A——, one of our thirstiest farmers, assures me it never fails, and others speak of the same success in using it. I should like to hear what other people say of it.—*New England Farmer.*

### HOGS.—MODE OF FEEDING.

To the *Editor of the Cultivator*:

Wm. Buckminster, Esq.—Sir: I send you an account of some Hogs I killed this fall, and the manner of keeping, which you can publish if you think deserving a place in your valuable paper.

I killed two hogs, one sow, and six pigs, which the sow raised; their weights were:

One Hog,	631 lbs.
" "	566
" Sow	509
Six Pigs,	1200

making 2906 lbs.

They have eat 250 bushels Corn, at 60c—\$150.

" 200 " Vegetables, 30c—total 210.

My manner of feeding them was as follows: From the 1st day of September to 1st day of March, their breakfast was raw potatoes, their dinner raw turnips, beets or carrots; their supper one quart of corn each. The 1st day of March I filled their trough with corn and water, and kept it so until the day I killed them. I have a warm place for them to sleep in, and a yard where I make my manure, 36 by 20 feet, with a stone bottom, and have now in it, which I have made this summer, 125 horse loads; I care not what the breed of a hog is if they will eat well, and we do our part, and give them plenty of corn. Six years ago I bought 29 pigs, and sold to my neighbors all that were saleable, and they told me I had better knock the brains out of the rest of them and save their keeping; but I raised as large hogs as any of them; I kept the breed during the time only shifting the sows twice in six years. Last year I killed 3 hogs, weighing 1500 lbs.

Respectfully yours, &c.,

BENJAMIN SMITH.

Duxbury, Ms. Dec. 13, 1840.

Our friend of Duxbury does not seem to think highly of cooking food for hogs; but many accurate experiments have been made which show the advantage of cooking it. No doubt many of these are exaggerated. Horses will work quite well on corn, provided always they have time enough to chew and digest it. It should always be given them in the evening when they have time for both.

Hogs need a change of food, and whole corn may take its turn in the change—but we must think that well cooked food is in general far superior to that which is half cooked. To prove this we have need only to compare heavy bread to that which is made in the best manner.

There is a difference also in breeds of animals, in regard to the quantity of food necessary to fatten them. We want small bones, small heads, and broad backs, for swine. Do we not see that some men eat more than twice as much as others, and yet are more lean than they?

In improving the breeds of animals we are liable to one general error,—we make pets of the selected stock and the animals are soon overgrown. We gain nothing by rearing very large horses, oxen, cows, or hogs. Our main object should be to improve their proportions.—*Boston Cultivator.*

To EASTERN FRIENDS.—Will not some of our Eastern friends—those who take an interest in Western improvement, be at some trouble to send the Society seeds and plants of various kinds that might be useful in the West, for the purpose of having them tested? There are many things indigenous to the West, that are rarely if ever seen at the East, and some of the members will be at the trouble of seeing any favors repaid, that may be shown the Society. It is of great importance that every kind of grain, grass, &c., be thoroughly tested as soon as possible. One object of the institution of the Society is to accomplish this; and anything sent to it shall be so disposed of as to put it thoroughly to the proof. We should like to receive so much of various seeds, &c. as will admit of a division of each kind, between several individuals.

With Eastern Societies it would give us pleasure,

and be of mutual benefit to us and them to reciprocate favors, either as noticed above, or in correspondence, exchange of addresses, &c.

If Eastern papers will please notice the above, it will materially assist the Society in attaining its object.—*Union Agriculturist.*

### THE ONION, AS A FIELD CROP.

In much of New England, the onion is a staple crop, attended with great profit.—Whilst in the South, a few years since, we remarked the fact, that the whole coast from St. Augustine to New Orleans, is supplied with this root from Yankee land, in great abundance, and at fine prices. While New England brigs and schooners are freighted down with onions and other root crops for Southern ports, New Orleans vessels are carrying out Tennessee and Kentucky corn to the ports of the East and North—the corn commanding from 75 cts. to \$1 per bushel, and the onions from \$2 per bushel to 25 cts. the string—say \$3 per bushel. Now, let us look at the relative profits of the two crops.

On ground of average fertility, with good culture, we grew this year onions at the rate of 60 1/8 bushels per acre, carefully measured. By setting them (the buttons were used) thicker in the rows, we might have made seven or eight hundred bushels to the acre, of smaller onions. The rows were 14 inches apart. We are satisfied that with the rows 3 feet apart, when well cultivated, with the aid of a small bull-tongue plough, one hand may cultivate five acres, and produce 500 bushels to the acre.—These, if boated to New Orleans, (and they are as easily boated as corn, wheat, and many other products annually sent off by our farmers,) would probably *nett* \$1 per bushel, which would be 1500 to the labor of one hand!

The same hand would cultivate 25 acres of Indian corn, netting in the New Orleans market some 20 cts. per bushel—making an aggregate sum of \$140 as the product of the labor of the hand.

These estimates are subject to some variation of course; we do not pretend to be precisely accurate, but the astonishing difference is sufficient at least to arrest most forcibly the attention of our farmers—which is all we desire. Let them look to their interests in all respects. The Yankees are the very last men in the world to engross a *profitless* business—why have they, then, (far to the East and North of us) engrossed the markets with this crop a thousand miles South and West of us?

Do we smile at the idea of an onion farm in Tennessee—and continue to plant cotton because of its greater *respectability*? Have we not measured our respectability by the number of our cotton bales, till we are almost bankrupted as a community? The illusion has cost us millions—it is time we were throwing it off—all honest avocations upon the farm are creditable only in the degree of their production of wealth; and the day is not far distant when the farmer will be laughed at who will plant cotton in this latitude.

*Southern Cultivator.*

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY OF MAINE.—The people in Maine are stirring themselves in favor of an agricultural survey of that State. Massachusetts has set them a noble example, and proved the utility of such a survey, not only to farmers, but to the community generally. The geological survey of that State has not yet been completed, although its progress has been stopped for the present; with the materials, however, which that survey has furnished, we think an agricultural survey would be highly advantageous. Maine has larger agricultural resources than is generally known, and a survey would call them into notice.

The manufacture of hay rakes, grain cradles, &c., of superior quality has been commenced at Bradford, Maine, and the rich agricultural region of the Penobscot valley, will soon be supplied with these articles, manufactured among themselves. The establishment of agricultural ware houses, where are collected all the various improved implements of husbandry has a fine effect in quickening the inventive genius and awaking a spirit of enterprise and improvement.—*Yankee Farmer.*

Rheumatism.—Take a pint of the spirits of turpentine, to which add half an ounce of camphor; let it stand till the camphor is dissolved; then rub it on the part affected, and it will never fail of removing the complaint. Flannel should be applied after the part has been well fomented with turpentine. Repeat the application morning and evening. It is said to be equally effectual in cases of burns, scalds, and bruises.

Electricity for Motive Power.—A German artist in London, is about to take out a patent for the invention of a clock, of which the motive power is to be electricity. Its construction is said to be one of extreme simplicity.

Benevolence.—It is said that Joseph Gurney, the celebrated Quaker, during his late visit to this country, made donations to the charitable associations to an amount exceeding \$80,000.



## AGRICULTURAL.

Original.

## BE CAREFUL AND MANAGE YOUR WOOD LOT WELL.

MR. HOLMES:—Fuel is a very important necessary of life—quite as necessary as bread in our northern climate. Late discoveries and improvements which are constantly being made in steam, render it certain that large quantities of fuel will be required in these United States for various purposes. Timber of various kinds will always be indispensably necessary for the various mechanical purposes. In France it is said that officers of the government practice marking such trees as in their judgment ought to be preserved, and it is made penal for the owner himself to cut down any such marked trees. The preservation of forest trees is of immense importance not only to the farmer but to the country at large. There are immense forests in Maine, which ere long will be of more value than mines of gold. Some have recommended to the farmer to fence his wood lot with as much care as one would his corn-field. I think this in most cases is a needless expense: at the worst, cattle will not injure trees of considerable size.

I will proceed to point out some of the errors committed by farmers so far as my observation has extended. Let us consider the immense quantities of pine lumber cut in our State. Has our pine lumber been a source of wealth to our lumber-men. No! Nine cases in ten they have been ruined instead of being made rich. Had our lumber-men given their attention to farming instead of destroying our stately pine forests, instead of bankrupts we should have independent farmers and our pine timber would have been saved to us and for the benefit of posterity. How many farmers have sold their valuable pine timber for a "mere song," and now are compelled to use shingles made of red oak, poplar or hemlock. But to weep for "spilled milk" is bad philosophy. What is already done cannot be recalled, but it is to be hoped that our farmers will act wisely. There is much valuable hemlock and other timber in our State. Let every farmer be cautious how he cuts down trees.

And another capital error of farmers I will notice. How many rocky sides of hills appear in the State of Maine, called indeed pastures, but bushes, brakes, and every noxious vegetable which neither cattle, sheep, nor swine will eat, show themselves in copious profusion; but the sweet tender grass does not show itself. Now these sides of hills were formerly covered with a thick growth of thrifty growing wood. It is cut down because that such kind of land will generally yield a good crop of rye the first year. Many of these sides of hills are so rocky that no efforts of man can clear away these obstructions to the plough; of course the brakes &c. must take possession of the soil. Ask a farmer why he cut down his valuable growth of wood on lands that are not tillable, the answer would be, "O! I did not think;" very well it is lack of thinking that makes bad farmers. Every farmer should go through his wood lot early in the winter before the snow is too deep and get all the fallen and decaying wood so that the growing trees may be saved.

When cutting green trees select the largest and those that are the least thrifty. If our farmers do not manage their wood lots with greater care and economy the day is not far distant when fuel will be very scarce. I hope some able pen will engage this subject and give our farmers a severe philippic for their culpable mismanagement.

J. E. ROLFE.

Runford Dec. 1840.

## DUTY OF FARMERS—MILKING AND FEEDING MILCH COWS.

Editor of the Southern Cultivator.

Sir—The value of Agricultural papers is I believe almost universally admitted to be great, to any farming community in which they are situated. At all events, there are none who can find any fault to the publication of such papers, and there are very few in modern days that pretend to say they do no good. Thus much for cavillers and sceptics who exist every where, and in regard to all things useful or, important. The Bi-

ble itself is doubted by some—rail-roads and turnpikes are strenuously opposed by many—improvements in cotton machinery once produced riots in Europe, and so it is generally with all good things—there are almost always some to object or to find fault. It is saying much for agricultural papers, therefore, to say that none are to be found who object to their establishment—many are indifferent, it is true, to their existence, but that number is daily diminishing, whilst the great body of *good farmers* are becoming more and more attached to system, and science, and improvement, the result of the instructive lessons of agricultural papers. The value of agricultural papers is great in many points of view of discussing these points, I will for the present pass them over, and content myself by citing the fact, that where such papers are most extensively circulated and read, there agriculture is almost certain to be found in the highest state of improvement. We all know that knowledge of all kinds is steadily progressing—that the sciences (especially those connected with agriculture) are unfolding new truths connected with the laws of nature almost daily, and we know that all such new developments are collected as fast as they have an existence, and spread out in the columns of the periodical press. The farmer, then, who reads a well conducted agricultural paper is sure to meet with every new and valuable suggestion of improvement connected with his avocation, whilst he who blunders blindly along without such means of instruction is certain to avail himself very slowly of any existing improvement, and remain in old errors which often cost him more than the price of a dozen papers. But I am discussing what I merely intended to hint at, and which in truth I suspect is already taken for granted by every well informed farmer in the whole country.

The next point, then, is, that agricultural papers must be sustained by the great farming community—and how? Why to sustain them, they must be made interesting and useful. Patronage, *merely*, in so many dollars and cents given to the publisher, will not sustain a paper long if nothing else be done. It must be filled with interesting essays, valuable facts, solid information, and all that is useful in the way of setting forth the best modes of doing all things about all sorts of farms in the country. Where, then, is all this matter to come from? You have frequently hinted, and I and all other farmers who will reflect a moment know, that it must come in a great measure from *farmers themselves*.—Who are so capable as farmers to furnish it? But one may ask, if it is to come from the farmers, why have a paper at all? If the farmers are to write what the farmers are to read, why the necessity of writing and reading that which is known before it is read or written? The answer is plain. Farmer A. may be in possession of one piece of agricultural information unknown to his neighbors—farmer B. of another—farmer C. of another. Without a paper to publish these items of information in, each may live for years in ignorance of the other's knowledge—but with a paper, the *three facts*, if published, become common property, and are known to all. So it is, with a whole community—a commonwealth, or a nation of men. The greater the number of readers and writers, the greater the number of new improvements made known to all, and the more rapid the advancement in the science of agriculture. It then becomes the duty of every farmer to do his share in contributing to the general fund of facts looked for in farmer's paper. Conscientious of this duty, I took up my pen to write. I am aware that there are many others in the community more competent, and having more leisure; that in fact I shall not be able to quite the reader for the space I may occupy. But I determined that I would put off my *mite* no longer, and I will add the wish that others may take up their pens in the same spirit.

I will at present only assure you that my experience has satisfied me of the truth of the saying, that "one cow well milked is worth two badly milked." I had the past season two cows in milk, which furnished an abundance of milk for my family. They however began to fail under tolerable feeding and some neglect, in stripping the milk, until the loss of milk was seriously felt; in fact, one of them was so nearly dried up that she was turned dry. Prompt attention was given to the other, the food was doubled, and instructions were given to strip her thoroughly at each milking. In two weeks she *doubled* it, and now gives nearly as much as the *two* did in the summer, when badly attended to. Let this fact go for what it is worth. It is worth much to all lovers of milk and butter. R.

## WORMS IN THE LUNGS OF SWINE.

The Medical and Surgical Journal of last week has an article on this subject which we copy below. Swine are often taken sick and die suddenly without an apparent cause. We have known a farmer to lose

twenty half grown hogs without being able to discover a cause or a remedy for the evil; though we much doubt whether worms in the lungs would cause sudden death.

A few days since, my lady brought in to my office four worms, which protruded themselves from a portion of the lungs of a swine which had been butchered three or four hours previous to the discovery.—She had cut a piece from the lower part of one of the lobes and thrown it upon the gridiron to broil for a favorite cat. As it became more than naturally heated, she saw them rising out of their cells, contorting themselves into every conceivable manner of figure. They were alive and in motion when I first saw them, but ceased to move soon after. The longest measured two and a half inches in length—the others, from one and a half to two inches. When viewed by the microscope, they resembled, except in size, the *ascaris lumbricoides*, as described by Dr. Good (Study of Medicine, Vol. 1, p. 200). I regret exceedingly, that being called away in haste, I did not preserve them, and that I had not an opportunity of examining the remaining part of the lungs. These worms were represented to me as coming from cells enlarged by their presence, the walls of which were hardened and thickened. The shoot from which the lungs were taken was eight or nine months old when killed, and fattened under my own observation. It fatted well, and I never had supposed that it was in the least diseased.

E. G. WHEELER.

Unionville, Dec. 9, 1840.—*Boston Cultivator.*

## THE OHIO EVER-BEARING RASPBERRY.

Stem—biennial, woody, round, red, with a whitish bloom, strong but pendulous, very branched, round and rather prickly; prickles, hooked, irregular and scattered; leaf, oppositely sinuate, with a large terminating leaflet; leaflets acutely pointed, ovate acuminate, sharply serrulate, downy and white beneath, dark green above; stalks, long and prickly; flowers, in clusters, erect; flower stalk, long and prickly; calyx, segments 5 or 6, long, acuminate, irregular; fruit, purple, numerous, in clusters; seeds numerous and prominent. I can find no notice of it in any botanical work.

Mr. Longworth, who next to the Shakers at Union Village, was the first to appreciate and grow this valuable plant, has opportunely handed me a few remarks on the subject, part of which I will quote in preference to what I had myself prepared. He says: "I first met with the ever-bearing raspberry in October, 1832, when driven to the interior by the cholera. It was first found about fifteen years ago, in the State of Ohio, near the lakes. The fruit is very superior in flavor, and most resembles the native annual bearing raspberry, but is much larger, finer flavored and more fleshy. At my table when set down with the White Antwerp, almost an equal number of those who partake of both, give the former the preference. It produces an abundant crop of fruit, from the wood of the preceding year, a little earlier than any other raspberry. The old wood then ceases to bear, and dies before fall, and the succeeding crops through the season are from the new wood, which also produces the abundant June crop of the following year. It never throws up suckers, but it is increased by the end of the new wood, which early in September takes a rapid growth, droops over, and each throws out from three to six small shoots, the points of each of which take root immediately on their reaching the ground. I sent some to my sister in New Jersey—their summers are cooler than ours, and with them they bear better than with me, during the heat of summer."

In conclusion, I may remark, that we can procure a few hundred rods for those wishing to possess them, by application, if by letter, post paid, at our office.

Western Farmer.

*Rearing Calves on Flax Seed and Hay Tea.*—MESSRS. EDITORS—Permit me through the medium of your valuable periodical, to thank my friend of Washington, for his favors bestowed on me, the which through your politeness I have received, and in reply to his question as to my way of rearing calves, I reply that I believe not one of the calves I raised, ever received a drop of milk from the cow. My cows were watched closely, and as soon, and in fact in more than one case before they did stand, they were carried in the pen I had prepared for them; their mouths were then filled with salt, (this by the way was done at least once a day, until they were turned in pasture.) In preparing the flax seed, we put half a pint of seed to three quarts of water, and boiled it till it became a jelly, then boiled water on hay, so that when the hay and the flax seed was mixed, it was but little thicker than milk; this, when about blood warm, was put in a trough, and but a little time before this was the only trouble we had with them. We every day put

fresh hay in their pen, and I have seen my calves at 3 days old eating considerable of the finest of the smoky hay, and it was really amusing to see the rightness of a calf at 4 and 5 days old that had never tasted milk, which is so contrary to the common way of rearing them; but it convinced me of the saying of Sam Patch that some things can be done as well as others. My calves can be seen at any time on my farm in Bethlehem, half a mile south of Albany on the White Hall road. I have never tried this mode of raising pigs, but I intend to with some of the first litter I have, and will let you hear of my success. There is only one obstacle in the way, and that is to learn them to drink, for I think if this method is adopted it must be done without the pigs having any milk. I think we must obey the command in fact and deed to train it up in its infancy in the way we would have it, if we expect success.

E. S. WILLETT.  
Albany Cultivator.

#### SAUSAGE MAKING.

Should you think our mode of making sausages worth a place in your chapter on domestic economy you can place it there.

We prepare our sausage meat in the usual way. Then instead of putting the meat in skins, prepared from hogs' entrails, we make bags of white clean cotton or linen cloth, as large, say as a man's arm, larger or smaller as may suit, and of convenient length, say about a foot long, and put the sausage meat in these bags, and hang them up to dry. In this, we save much labor in preparing the skins, and considerable in cooking; we slip off the bag from so much as is needed, and cut the sausage into slices of sufficient thickness for cooking. I much prefer sausages put in bags to those put in skins, as they keep more moist. Others, for the same reason dislike them.

Respectfully yours, CALVIN BUTLER.  
P. S. Ripe elderberries make good pies. Try them ladies.—Albany Cultivator

C. B.  
Plymouth, (Conn.) Sept 17, 1840.

#### CURE FOR HOOF AIL.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Perceiving in your last number, an inquiry respecting a remedy for the hoof ail in cattle, I am happy to have it in my power to communicate one which never fails of effecting a cure in two or three days. Blue vitriol finely pulverized, and applied to the diseased part of the hoof, once a day for two or three days, is all that is necessary. In the case of a cow of mine, one application was sufficient, and I presume would generally answer the purpose. The disease here is called by some of our farmers, "souls," and by others, "hoof ail." If the case alluded to by your correspondent, is the same disease, you can depend on my remedy.—Albany Cultivator.

Yours, &c.  
P. E. HUBBARD.  
Middletown (Conn.) Nov. 7, 1840.

#### A FAIR CROP.

MESSRS. GAYLORD & TUCKER—I planted a piece of land ground, without any manure, to corn, potatoes, pumpkins and beans, measuring 104 rods and 207 square feet, on the 20th of May.

To corn, pumpkins and beans, 78 rods 107 feet, which produced 85 bushels of ears corn, at 2s. per bushel, \$21.25  
207 bundles stalks, being topped, 2.07  
1-2 bushel beans, 10s. per bushel, 63  
Husks and bottoms left in the field, 2.00  
190 pumpkins 8s. per hundred, 1.90

Product of less than half an acre \$37.85  
26 rods and 100 feet to potatoes, 48 1-2 bushels at 80 20c. per bushel, 9.7

Tending and seed, \$37.55  
Leaving a profit of \$26.87

It will at once be seen that the above is a very large crop, although at first sight it would seem that \$10.68 worth of labor and seed, laid out on so small a piece, was too much, yet it leaves \$25.87 profit including interest on land, which certainly pays well for the extra labor. It was ploughed in the best manner and deep. In planting, every sod that lay up loose, was put down with the foot, which accounts for two days occupied in planting less than three-fourths of an acre; it was hoed but twice, but well done, and no plaster on seed, or after it came up; once dressed with un-leached ashes.

C. M. L. A.  
Mecedon, N. Y. Oct. 3, 1840

Albany Cultivator.

HONOR AND PROFIT OF INDUSTRY.—"The greatest of men have been trained up to work with their hands." If there is an encouraging sentence in the English

language it is the above. God ordained that man should live by "the sweat of his face," and intelligence can breathe and live only in a being of active life. Aikenside, the author of *The Pleasures of Imagination*, was a butcher until twenty-one, and first took to study from being confined in his room by the fall of a cleaver. Marshall Ney was the son of a cooper; Roger Sherman, Allen Cunningham, and Clifford, were shoe makers; Sir William Herschel was a fifer boy; Franklin, a printer's devil; Ferguson a shepherd; Ben. Johnson was a bricklayer; James Monroe the son of a bricklayer; General Knox was the son of a bookbinder; General Green a blacksmith; General Morgan a wagoner; Burns a plough-boy; Bloomfield was a farmer; Frazer, a stone-cutter; Crabbe and Keates apothecaries; Sir William Blackstone was the son of a silk mercer, and a posthumous child.—*Agriculturist.*

who know much more of these matters than we profess to know, that he who neglects having comfortable houses and shelters for his horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs for winter, may expect to sustain loss. It is an established point, that stock will keep fat on much less food when housed, than if exposed to the severities of the weather. Indeed, it is impossible to keep stock in fine health and condition without protection from cold and storms. Much less food, too, is required when animals are regularly fed, watered and attended.

Be merciful, then, for your own profit as well as for the sake of mercy. A blessing is the reward of duty.

ECONOMY IN A FAMILY.—There is nothing which goes so far towards placing young people beyond the reach of poverty, as economy in the management of their domestic affairs. It matters not whether a man furnish little or much for his family; if there is a leakage in his kitchen or in the parlor, it runs away he knows not how, and that demon waste cries more, like the horse-leech's daughter, until he that provided has no more to give. It is the husband's duty to bring into the house and it is the duty of the wife to see that nothing goes wrongfully out of it—not the least article, however unimportant in itself—to establish a precedent; nor under any pretence, for it opens the door for ruin to stalk in, and he seldom leaves an opportunity unimproved. A man gets a wife to look after his affairs, and to assist him in his journey through life, to educate and prepare his children for a proper station in life, and not to dissipate his property. The husband's interest should be the wife's care, and her greatest ambition to carry her no farther than his welfare or happiness, together with that of her children. This should be her sole aim, and the theatre of her exploits in the bosom of her family, where she may do as much towards making a fortune as he can in the workshop or the counting room. It is not the money earned that makes a man wealthy—it is what he saves from his earnings. A good and prudent husband makes a deposit of the fruits of his labor with his best friend; and if the friend be not true to him, what has he to hope? If he dare not place confidence in the companion of his bosom, where is he to place it? A wife acts not for herself only, but she is the agent of many she loves, and she is bound to act for their good, and not for her own gratification. Her husband's good is the end to which she should aim—his approbation is her reward. Self-gratification in dress, or indulgence in appetite, or more company than his purse can well entertain, are equally pernicious. The first adds vanity to extravagance—the second fastens a doctor's bill to a long butcher's account—and the latter brings intemperance, the worst of all evils, in its train.—*Sunbury American.*

#### DRAINING.

The reasons for draining exist in the nature of the soil itself and that of the earths of which it is constituted. The object of draining is to free the soil from superabundant moisture, render it more permeable to atmospheric action, and thus give it friability and productiveness to a greater degree. Thorough draining is one of the greatest of modern improvements in agriculture, and has already redeemed millions of acres from a worthless state, and converted it into soil of the most valuable kind. Draining has been practised from the earliest ages, but it was confined to freeing lands from their surplus water, and beneficial as this must have been, it could be considered as nothing more than a preparatory step for further operations. A very large proportion of the cultivable lands of all countries is based on a sub-soil more or less retentive of water, generally hard and tenacious, and allowing water to pass off very slowly, or by evaporation. If near the surface, or within eight to twelve inches, the effect on the crops grown is very injurious; if from twenty to thirty inches below the surface, the effect in the retention of the water is much less. To furnish additional means for the escape of water so retained and which becoming stagnant is prejudicial to plants, is the object of the modern system of draining. In thorough draining the depth of the drains and their frequency must depend on the nature of the soil, and the quantity of water to be thrown off. The best method or rule appears to be to have them so placed that no water shall be permanently retained nearer the surface than thirty inches. Ditches or drains are dug at the requisite distances, so planned that the water shall flow freely to some given point of discharge, to the depth of from thirty inches to three feet, as circumstances require; width at the top some eighteen inches, at the bottom ten or twelve. The filling up of the drains is performed variously. The most common is to place stones against the sides of the drain, at the bottom, and on these place others, so as to form a covering to an open space for the passage of the water. On these, others are thrown in loosely till the drain is filled a foot or more. On this, the turfs thrown out, are placed inverted, or else straw or turf must be be-

low any depth that will be reached by the plough, or the covering of the drain will be disturbed, and the passage of the water obstructed. In some parts of England and Scotland, what are called draining tiles are made of clay so constructed as to be placed in the bottom of the drain forming a permanent passage for the water, and when well made are very durable. Land when thoroughly drained, speedily loses its tenacious hard-pan character, and becomes suitable for all kinds of grain grown on the most favored soils of the district; manures produce their proper action, the roots of plants have room to expand in search of food, and sour worthless lands are effectually cured. Open drains are important for carrying water from low lands on which it is apt to accumulate in quantity, but are inadmissible on cultivated lands, as obstructing the plow. A large quantity of the richest land in all countries, exists in the shape of swamps and morasses and draining, open or thorough, is fast bringing these into an available state. There are very few farms in the country on which draining would not be more or less useful, and on which it must sooner or later be employed.—*Albany Cultivator.*

### SUMMARY.

#### To Subscribers.

Persons wishing to transact business relating to the MAINE FARMER at the Legislature in Augusta, are informed that Mr. NATHAN FOSTER, the Representative from Winthrop, is authorized to act as Agent, to receive new subscriptions and money, and to give receipts.

#### MAINE LEGISLATURE.

On Wednesday the 16th, the Senate was organized by the choice of R. H. Vose of Augusta, President, and Daniel Sanborn of Levant, Secretary. Wm. E. Kimball of Portland was chosen Messenger.

In the House, George C. Getchell of Anson, was elected Clerk by a majority of 16 votes. The House then ballotted twice for Speaker, without making a choice.—On the first ballot, the votes were for John Otis of Hallowell 87, John T. Paine of Sanford 83, Josiah S. Little of Portland 8, Ichabod R. Chadbourne of Eastport 1, Ebenezer Otis of St. George 1. The second ballot showed an increased vote for Messrs. Little and Chadbourne, whigs. The House then adjourned till afternoon, when a third attempt was made to elect without success, and the House adjourned to Thursday.

On Thursday, Mr. Little was elected by a majority of three votes over all other candidates.

An order was passed in each house, requesting the several clergymen resident in Augusta and Hallowell, to officiate as Chaplains in rotation.

In the Senate, a message was received from the Governor, transmitting the correspondence between Sir John Harvey, Governor Fairfield and President Van Buren, in relation to the occupation of a portion of Madawaska, by a detachment of British troops.

A message was also received transmitting the votes for Governor, which were referred to a joint committee, Mr. Davis of Cumberland in the Senate, and Mr. Severance in the House, are Chairmen.

On Friday the 8th, little business of importance was transacted. Remonstrances were presented against the right of Thomas Burrill, Samuel Bliss, William Cobb, Jr., and — Hobart, to seats in the House, also against the reception of votes given for Governor by the inhabitants of certain plantations.

On Saturday, in Convention of the two houses, Jeremiah Fowler of Lubec, was elected to supply a vacancy in the eighth Senatorial District. The votes were for Mr. Fowler 115, for Stephen C. Foster 89, and 1 blank.

Daniel Libby of Augusta is messenger of the House, and Solomon H. Campbell of New Gloucester, assistant clerk.

The first annual report of the directors and superintendent of the Insane Hospital, and the report of the inspectors of the State Prison were communicated to the Senate.

On Monday, the Committee on the Gubernatorial votes reported that there is no choice.

In Senate, Tuesday, Jan. 12, message from the House informing the Senate that they had selected from the four highest candidates for Governor, the names of Edward Kent and John Fairfield, and sent up to the Senate for them to make a choice of one for Governor.

On motion of Mr. Ingalls, ordered, that the Senate proceed forthwith to elect, by ballot, a Governor from the two constitutional candidates sent up by the House.

On motion of Mr. Parsons, ordered, that a committee, consisting of Messrs. Parsons, Lane, Ingalls, Bennett and Lowell be raised for the purpose of receiving, sorting and counting the votes for Governor, who having attended to that duty reported the whole number of votes

Edward Kent has

24

16

#### John Fairfield

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And EDWARD KENT was declared constitutionally elected Governor of the State of Maine.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that body that the Senate have made choice of the Hon. Edward Kent as Governor for the current political year.

In the House, the principal business was discussing, and accepting the Report of the Committee on the gubernatorial votes.

In Senate, Wednesday, Jan. 13, a message was received from the House, informing the Senate that they propose to meet in convention of the two Houses, in the Representatives' Hall, tomorrow at 11 o'clock, for the purpose of choosing seven Councillors, to advise the Governor for the current political year. And also to choose a Secretary of State, and asked the concurrence of the Senate. The Senate concurred.

A message was sent to the House, proposing a convention of the two branches, in the Representatives' Hall, forthwith, for the purpose of administering the necessary oaths to qualify the Hon. Edward Kent, Gov. elect, to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

In the House, the two branches accordingly met in Convention, and Mr. Davis, of the Senate, was charged with a message to the Governor elect, informing him that the two branches were assembled in Convention, for the purpose of administering to him the necessary oaths of office. Mr. D. reported that the Governor elect would attend forthwith.

The Governor elect then came in, attended by the acting Governor and Council of 1840, and the usual oaths were administered by the President pro tem. of the Senate.

The Secretary of State then proclaimed the election and qualification of Gov. Kent in the usual form, and the Convention separated.

The House immediately adjourned.

**Remarkable Case.**—A surgical operation was performed last week by Dr. Lewis L. Miller, upon a lady in Massachusetts, which consisted in removing from the body a perfect and dead child which weighed four pounds and six ounces. She had carried the dead burden more than six years, and in the mean time has given birth to three full grown children the last of which is fourteen months old. She sustained the operation well, and has a fair prospect of recovery.

**The Dead Alive.**—A man by the name of Henry Noyes, of gentlemanly appearance, supplied with money, and respectably connected in Bangor, Me. suddenly disappeared, some days since, and it was supposed he was murdered. Search was made for him, but all in vain. Lately it has been discovered that he enlisted in the U. S. Dragoons, and is probably at Carlisle, Penn. The reason for his doing this is as much a mystery as was his disappearance.

**Georgia and Maine.**—The Legislature of Georgia has passed a law establishing a quarantine of a hundred days on all vessels coming from Maine—any violation of which shall be punished with confinement in the penitentiary from five to ten years. This law has been passed in consequence of the refusal of the Governor of Maine to deliver up certain individuals who are charged with harboring slaves. The Governor of Georgia is authorized to suspend the operation of the law whenever the demand on Maine shall be complied with.

The Senate of Alabama have passed a bill for the election of congressmen by general ticket.

The Philadelphia papers speak with entire confidence of the resumption of specie payments by the banks of that State on the 15th.

**American Mechanics.**—It is stated in the New York Herald, that a company in Trieste, Austria, have despatched an agent to this country to buy the entire machinery of a flouring mill, and to take it over to Trieste. Some shipments of wheat have been made to the U. States from Austria in 1836, '37, it was ascertained by those who sent it that when it was ground up in this country better flour and more in quantity was produced than could be obtained from the same quantity of wheat in Austria. The knowledge of this fact caused the mission of a special agent for the purpose above named.

The best ice houses are constructed entirely above ground. One house is built in another, the walls being about 18 or 20 inches asunder, and the space filled with pulverized charcoal or tan bark. The floor is filled with sand some 12 or 15 inches, and a layer of it the depth of a few inches. This kind of a floor will completely absorb the moisture and keep it dry. Rye straw makes the best roof. The room should not be less than 18 feet square in the clear.

An acre of ground will produce rhubarb enough to make one hundred and fifty hogsheads of wine.

A few dollars have just been coined at the mint in

Philadelphia with new and very beautiful devices, resembling the latest halves and quarters. They have sold freely at three per cent. premium for New Year's presents.

Bird's eye maple boards and timber have been shipped from Bangor, the present season, destined for the London market, it is said, where it is much admired as an article to be manufactured into furniture.

The boiler of the steamboat Cherokee, at Louisburg, in Arkansas, exploded, by which accident seventeen persons were killed, and several badly wounded.

It is stated in the Providence Journal, that a phenologist lately applied for the use of the Common Council Chamber of Chicago, for a lecture room. The fathers of the city granted it provided he would examine the heads of the Mayor, Council and Clerk, gratis.

While General Gaines is enlightening the citizens of Philadelphia by lectures on National Defence—his accomplished lady is edifying and entertaining them by lectures on the 'Horrors of War.' On Saturday evening last, both lectured to the same audience—the General being succeeded by his 'better half.' The Pennsylvanian says—'Mrs. Gaines was applauded to the very echo, and so dense was the crowd that gathered around the gallant old soldier that it was difficult to pass out.'

It is mentioned in the report of the Secretary of War, that the act of July, 1838, granting pensions to widows, expires on the 4th of March next. The number of this class of pensioners is five thousand, five hundred and eighty-six.

It is stated that in Missouri there are nearly eighteen thousand adults who can neither read nor write. We can hardly credit the story. We did not suppose that there were so many uneducated persons in the whole United States.

**Improvement in Ship Building.** The Port Tyne (Eng.) Pilot says that the Rosanna, a new ship lately built by Mr. Jackson, at the South Shore, Liverpool, is entirely fitted with iron lower deck beams. They are remarkable for their strength and neatness, and above all give additional room for stowage, equivalent to twelve inches depth of hold. She is the first vessel ever constructed in that way.

**New Fabric.** The most ingenious invention of weaving glass with silk is proceeding with great success. The patterns wove are beautiful in the extreme, and have induced many of the nobility of Europe to select them for curtains and other ornamental furniture.

Mr. Henry H. Rivers, of this city, says the Providence Journal, has performed the operation for squinting with perfect success. The patient was a young woman about 21 years of age, and had been from infancy afflicted with a squint in the left eye. The operation was performed about a week since, and the eye is returned to its proper position. We understand that the operation is perfectly simple and attended with very little pain.

**Largest Volcano in the World.** From communications just made to the Geological Society of London, it appears that Kiruca, a burning mountain in Owyhee, one of the Sandwich Islands, has a crater of more than nine miles in circumference, and lately threw forth a lake of liquid lava one mile long by half a mile broad, emitting intense heat, and glowing with extreme brilliancy.

**The Pope.**—Letters from Rome of the 3d ult. mention that the pope was so seriously unwell that he could not attend divine service All Souls' day.

### Married,

In Salem on Tuesday evening, Dec. 22d, Mr. William Ashby of Salem, aged 84, to Mrs. Polly Weekes, widow of the late Dr. Weekes, of Northam, England, aged 70.

In Alexandria, D. C. 24th ult., by Rev. Mr. Johnston, Mr. William Leeman, of Wiscasset, Me., to Mrs. Lucretia Allen, of A.

In Bath, by Rev. John Deering, Mr. Ezekiel T. Webb, of Woolwich, to Miss Harriet Deering, of Bath. Mr. John Doyea, to Miss Elizabeth Fontjami. Mr. George Simpson, to Miss Mary Fontjami.

In Phippsburg, Mr. Sewall Morse, to Miss Mary Jane Morse.

### Dead,

In Norridgewock, Mr. William Weston, aged 77—one of the first white settlers of the present county of Somerset.

In Eastport, 27th ult. Capt. John Shackford, aged 86—a revolutionary soldier. Mrs. Mary, wife of Benjamin Ricker, aged 47.

In Embden, Capt. Benj. Colby, aged 68.

In Topsham, Humphrey Purrington, Esq. aged 68.

In Monmouth, Mr. David Jewett, aged 62.

Three young men named Andrew Allen, Daniel Allen, and Israel Gregory, Jr. were drowned on New Year's night, while passing the channel from Seal harbor to the Muscleridges, near Thomaston. The two first left families.

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## BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Jan. 4, 1841.

(From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

At market 250 Beef Cattle, 60 Stores, 1600 Sheep and 50 Swine.

PRICES—*Beef Cattle*—Last weeks prices were fully stained. We quote first quality, \$5 75 a 6; second, 25 a 5 75; third 4 25 a 5.*Sheep*—“Dull.” Lots at 1 50, 1 75, 1 92—Wethers 25, 350, and 4.*Swine*—One lot at about 4e. At retail 5 a 6.

## THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the Office of the Maine Farmer.

Thermom.	Barometer.	Weather.	Wind.
17 44 43	29.50 29.55 29.60	R C C SSE.	SE.
33 36 36	29.70 29.70 29.70	F F F N.	N.
27 25 26	29.75 29.70 29.70	C C C N.	N.
28 29 29	29.65 29.65 29.55	C S S N.	N.
32 34 32	29.20 29.35 29.50	F C F W.	W.
27 30 31	29.75 29.80 29.80	F C F NW.	NW.
16 20 21	29.85 29.85 29.85	F F F N.	N.

For Fair weather; C Cloudy; S Snow; R Rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset. \* Below zero. s Shower between observations.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

## Winthrop Lyceum.

A meeting of the Winthrop Lyceum will be held in the Masonic Hall in this Village, on Tuesday evening next, at half past 6 o'clock.

Question for discussion:—“Have the Slave holders violated the Legislation of the United States since organization of the government?

A Lecture may be expected by Dr. E. Holmes. Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend.

Winthrop, Jan., 15, 1841.

## Wanted,

AN APPRENTICE to the Printing business. Enquire at this office.

## Blacksmith O! A Blacksmith.

“MY KINGDOM FOR A” BLACKSMITH.

The Great Falls in Rumford, (County of Oxford,) a Blacksmith is much wanted. This is a good farm town, and there is an abundance of good customers. A Blacksmith who is skillful in his occupation, industrious of temperate habits, would receive liberal patronage. There is a shop already built at this place which will be or let. There is a tremendous water power at these falls, the benefits of which a blacksmith may if he pleases himself of. Enquire of the subscriber at Rumford.

J. P. SMALL.

Rumford, January 11, 1841.

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NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Executor of the last will and testament of Daniel E. Barbarek late of Winthrop in the County of Kennebec, deceased, testate and has undertaken trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ISAAC WADSWORTH, Executor  
Winthrop, Dec. 28, 1840.

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NEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, the second Monday of January, A. D. 1841. COB MCKINNEY Guardian of Daniel Littlefield of Greene, in said county, having presented his account of guardianship for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Guardian give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed in Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court held at Augusta in said county, on the second Monday of February next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, now cause, if any they have, why the same should be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 2

NEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, the second Monday of January, A. D. 1841. JAH BARRELL, Guardian of Jane and Olive Turner of Greene, in said county, minors, having presented his account of guardianship for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Guardian give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed in Winthrop that they may appear at a Probate Court held at Augusta in said county, on the second Monday of February next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, now cause, if any they have, why the same should be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 2

## Flax Seed Wanted,

In exchange for goods, at my Store in Winthrop Village.

J. O. WING.

Winthrop, January 16th, 1841.

2m2

## Foreclosure Notice.

WHEREAS SAMUEL B. DAY, Junior, of Leeds in the County of Kennebec, on the sixth day of February, A. D. 1840, conveyed to Daniel D. Boynton of Monmouth, in said County, by Mortgage Deed a certain piece or parcel of land situated in said Leeds, being a Gore numbered one hundred and twenty-seven, and bounded as follows, to wit: Easterly by land occupied by Aaron Leathers, Robert Elmes and Jason Caswell, thence westerly on the north line of said Gore to the corner of land occupied by Joseph Elmes, thence southerly about eighteen rods to the original line between Isaac Beals, Jr. and said Gore, thence westerly to the road, thence easterly on said road to the first mentioned bounds, containing thirty-five acres more or less. Also one other piece of land situated in said Leeds, viz: it being thirty acres of lot numbered one hundred and twenty-six, being a Gore to be laid off at right angles across said lot, beginning at the east end of said lot and extending westerly the whole width of said lot, to contain the aforesaid thirty acres. The conditions of said Mortgage having been broken, I, the said Daniel D. Boynton claim to foreclose the same.

DANIEL D. BOYNTON.

Monmouth, January 14, 1841.

3w2

## Resurrection or Persian Pills.

SUPERIOR to the Hygean, Brandreth's Evan's Indian Purgative, and Matchless (priced) Sanative, or any other Pills or compound before the public as certified to by physicians and others. Let none condemn them until they have tried them, and then we are certain they will not.

It is now a settled point with all who have used the Vegetable or Persian Pills, that they are preeminently the best and most efficacious Family medicine that has yet been used in America. If every family could become acquainted with their sovereign power over disease, they would keep them, and be prepared with a sure remedy to apply on the first appearance of disease, and then how much distress would be avoided and money saved, as well as the lives of thousands, who are hurried out of time by neglecting disease in its first stages, or by not being in possession of a remedy which they can place dependence upon.

All who wish to guard against sickness should use the PERSIAN PILLS freely when needed; no injury can ensue from youth to old age, when taken according to the directions.

The RESURRECTION or PERSIAN PILLS.—The name of these Pills originated from the circumstance of the medicine being found only in the cemeteries of Persia. The vegetable productions being of a peculiar kind led to experiments to its medical qualities and virtues. In half a century it became an established medicine for diseases of that country. The extract of this singular production was introduced into some parts of Europe in the year 1793, and used by many celebrated physicians in curing certain diseases, where all other medicines had been used in vain. Early in the year 1792, the extract was combined with a certain vegetable medicine imported from Dura Baca, in the East Indies, and formed into pills. The admirable effect of this compound upon the human system led physicians and families into its general use. Their long established character, their universal and healing virtues, the detergent and cleansing qualities of their specific action upon the glandular part of the system, are such as will sustain their reputation and general use in the American Republic. Large box contains 73 Pills—Price 63 cts.—Small Box 35—Price 31 cts.

SAMUEL ADAMS, HALLOWELL,

50

Gen. Ag't. for the State of Maine, to whom orders may be addressed.

MACHINE SHOP AND IRON FOUNDRY.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in GARDINER, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an IRON FOUNDRY connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual.

Gardiner, March 21, 1840.

121v

## Orders for Premiums,

OF the Ken. Co. Ag. Society are left with the Secretary, Wm. Noyes, at the Maine Farmer Office.

## FURNITURE, CHAIRS, FEATHERS, &amp;c.

WALTER COREY,

19, EXCHANGE STREET.....PORTLAND,

MANUFACTURES, and has constantly for sale, an extensive assortment of

BUREAUS, SECRETARIES, SOFAS, TABLES, Patent Windlass and Common BEDSTEADS.

Also, for sale, a good assortment of Live Geese and Common FEATHERS; MATTRESSES; FEATHER BEDS; LOOKING GLASSES, WILLOW CRADLES, CARRIAGES, &amp;c. &amp;c.

Connected with the above, he has an extensive

CHAIR FACTORY;

where he manufactures mahogany, curled maple and common cane seat CHAIRS; fancy and common wood seat do.; cane seat, common rocking and nurse CHAIRS, &amp;c. &amp;c.

His facilities for manufacturing are such that he is enabled to sell as low as can be bought in Boston or New York, and every article warranted. His STOCK is complete in every respect, and it is believed that persons desirous of purchasing any articles in the house-furnishing line, will here find all that is wanted, and at prices corresponding with the times.

6m49

December 10.

1ST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, January 1, 1841.

Alden, Austin	Luce, Caroline
Adams, W. B.	Moody, David
Bearce, Lydia Ann	Nelson, James R.
Barnard, James	Packard, Ebenezer
Bussell, William	Packard Sophronia
Dexter, Maribah	Robinson, David
Foster, Lucinda F.	Richmond, Nancy
Fairbanks, S. H. & Co.	Rice, S. P.
Freeman, Charles	Scales, Enoch
Foster, Oliver	Stevens, Phylinda
Fellows, Joseph	Snell, Eben O.
Gorden, Daniel	Tinkham, Hannah W.
Haines, Content W. (2)	Tarbox, Mary Eliza
Holmes, Isaac	Trask, Susan
Harris, Pliny	Wing, Hannah (2)
King, Barnard	Woodman, S. M.
King, Sylvester	Wood, Samuel
Kezer, John	White, Joel W.

D. STANLEY, P. M.

## To those afflicted with Ruptures.

JUST received by the subscriber, THOMSON'S well known TRUSSES, which obtained the premium at the Fair in Boston and which have gained the precedence over all others wherever they have been introduced. The pad is a spiral spring, and the Truss can be altered to accommodate any rupture and make a most perfect fit on any size or shaped persons. Please call and examine.

Also, Jaguith's celebrated Trusses.

Shakers' Rocking do.

Ivory Pad do.

MARSH'S double and single Trusses at a large discount from regular prices. For sale by

45 SAMUEL ADAMS, HALLOWELL, Me.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administratrix of all and singular the goods and estate which were of Rowland Briggs, late of Winthrop, in the county of Kennebec, deceased intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

HANNAH BRIGGS, Adm'r.

Winthrop, Dec. 28, 1840.

1

## ORTHOPEDIC INFIRMARY,----For the Treatment of Spinal Distortions, Club-feet, &amp;c.

At 65 Belknap street, Boston. Patients from a distance can be accommodated with board in the immediate neighborhood.

JOHN B. BROWN, M. D. Surgeon.

We the subscribers approve of Dr. J. B. Brown's plan of an Infirmary for the treatment of Spinal Affections, Club Feet, and other Distortions of the human body, and will aid him by our advice whenever called upon.

John C. Warren, George Hayward, Edw. Reynolds, Jno. Randall, J. Mason Warren, John Jeffries, John Homans, M. S. Perry, W. Channing, George C. Shattuck, Jacob Bigelow, Enoch Hale, W. Strong, George Parkman, D. Humphrey Storer, George W. Otis Jr., Winslow Lewis, Jr., J. H. Lane, Edward Warren, George P. Duane, John Ware, George Bartlett, John Flint, J. V. C. Smith.

The above Institution has now been in operation over two years. During this time, a large number of Invalids have been admitted, who were suffering under almost every kind of physical deformity, particularly curvatures of the Spine and Club-Feet of all variety and degree.

The plan of Treatment in this Infirmary is in conformity with the most enlightened principles, which, in practice, have been found so successful in the modern Orthopedic Institutions of Europe. With what success it has been attended here, may be known by inquiring of any of the above surgeons.

3m45

## POETRY.

## Original.

The writer had stopped at a friend's house in N—, and falling sick there; this circumstance gave rise to the following lines:—

## TO MR. AND MRS. O—

Beneath your friendly roof, I name  
I've past a sleepless night of pain,—  
How luckless strange the thought!  
For real friends, whene'er they meet,  
Would feel a pleasure in the greet  
With every pain forgot.

But this should teach our humble kind,  
Who are so negligently blind  
Of what composes life;  
To learn there is a lurking wo,  
In all the pleasures mortals know,  
And sometimes even strife.

For these two ingredients are mixt  
In life, with scarce a line betwixt,  
To keep them separate.  
Hence, those who would a pleasure know,  
Must feel its associate too,—  
This is the human fate.

There is, how'er, where friends will find  
A place to real joys consigned,  
Without one pain to alloy,—  
In heaven where angels meet,  
Then friends each other greet  
And feel extatic joy.

November, 1, 1840.

W.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## Original.

## THE EXCELLENCE OF SARCASM.

MR. HOLMES:—In your 431 number, a gentleman who writes over the signature of "Ephebus," gives us a dissertation on the "power of ridicule." Although many positions assumed by the gentleman are abundantly correct, still I am strongly inclined to combat some of his arguments. "Ephebus" declaims at some length, and describes the numerous evils which ridicule entails upon society. By the term ridicule I suppose is understood reproach cast upon an adversary or opponent. I suppose the term ridicule is very nearly synonymous with the word sarcasm. Certainly the word ridicule means to cast reproach upon some one, and sarcasm means the very same. Now there is scarce a word in the English language for which I entertain a greater veneration or regard than the term sarcasm. I am aware that there is a good degree of cogency in the arguments of "Ephebus," and I am willing to acknowledge that ridicule or sarcasm in the hand of a fool or knave is a most contemptible quality. But in the hand of a Franklin, sarcasm becomes almost God-like. One writer says that he electrified the consciences of his fellow men; I suppose with a view to bring them to a sense of their duty. Sarcasm that is opposed to truth, is always contemptible; but when truth is suffered to lead the way scarcely any quality is more estimable or desirable. I have seen cases, indeed, when my indignation has been most thoroughly provoked. Suppose a large number of persons happen casually to come together—conversation leads to the discussion of important truths. One person in the company will perhaps use the most cogent arguments in vindication of his sentiments, theories or opinions; but some one in the company possesses a good share of that kind of wit which is calculated to dazzle or mislead weak minds. He is very smart in his attacks upon the strong hold of truth, till at length some very witty expression produces peals of laughter from the whole company and the question is decided at once. Thus you see that a wild "horse laugh" of fools frequently overthrows truth,—or rather I will say that truth being disgusted with her company hides her head or beholds her companions with a silent but spirited contempt.

A volume could not tell all the advantages resulting to mankind through the agency of sarcasm. In the most barbarous ages, Chivalry, (a kind of dueling) prevailed to an alarming extent. Cervantes destroyed it with his pen, and I think the only weapon he employed was sarcasm. In ancient Greece the people for a length of time were renowned for their love of liberty: but at length their statesmen became corrupt, and Philip of Macedon threatened the overthrow of every vestige of freedom. Demosthenes stood forth the defender of his country; opened the flood gates of eloquence and sarcasm upon his cotemporary orators who were bribed by Philip, and liberty fell not during the time that this great orator flourished. If we turn our eyes upon ancient Rome, we shall behold enough to excite our admiration. Cicero thunders in the senate, the adversary of demagogues. "Ephebus" accuses this ora-

tor of a fault. He poured upon the head of a corrupt demagogue such severe strokes of sarcasm that he writhed in agony and were it not that Roman virtue was at that time fast sinking patriotism must have triumphed gloriously over corrupt ambition. In modern Europe we have one instance at least of the powerful effects of sarcasm. Wm. Pitt, Earl of Chatham, stood forth in English parliament, the champion of virtue, of justice, of patriotism and national liberty. Well may it be said that his august mind overawed majesty. His manly eloquence has and will continue to exert a powerful influence on the cause of liberty throughout the globe. In our country the effects of sarcasm have been conspicuous. Mr Jefferson's declaration of independence, abounds with a pretty good share of sarcasm. Will "Ephebus" reproach the old patriot for being a little too sarcastic upon his Britannic majesty's government.

Will he reproach the Henrys, the Adamses, and the Hancocks, of illustrious memory, for pouring out vials of bitter sarcasm upon the enemies of human rights. Sarcasm is, I think the most useful quality that a writer or public speaker can possess. If the pulpit orator employs sarcasm he will make us hate vice,—if the lawyer is sarcastic he will most assuredly succeed in making us detest crime. Among authors I think none are more useful than those that are most sarcastic.

"Ephebus" mentions numerous evils resulting from the abuse of sarcasm—speaks of the severe pains engendered by refined sensibility! Now all these painful sensations may be counteracted by unshaken firmness. The man of intrepid virtue is not frightened at a sneer, but follows truth fearlessly, regardless of all ridicule that may be heaped upon him by fools and knaves. If liberty should ever be assailed in our country or should the great interests of the country be opposed—should agriculture which is the foundation of national wealth, the preserver of national virtue and one of the great sheet anchors of national liberty be impeded or assailed by the enemies of human happiness, may we ever have some thunderer, who "armed strong with honesty" may pour peal after peal of sarcasm, keen, pointed, and severe as the forked lightning of heaven, and may the "flashings of genius" have full scope till complete victory may be obtained over corruption and folly.

I conclude by expressing my opinion that if by the term ridicule is meant sarcasm, "Ephebus" is somewhat in fault.

J. E. ROLFE.

Rumford, Dec. 1840.

## Original.

## PROFANITY.

MR. EDITOR:—I well know, that you very properly refuse to publish, any thing relative to party politics or sectarianism; yet I have no doubt, you are willing to use your types for the suppression of any, and every sin and immorality.

The one to which I now allude in particular, is that of Profanity. Sir, this evil alarms me for the rising generation, not alone—because some of our Legislators, use profane language, and when I cannot walk the streets without hearing profane oaths drop from the lips of children—yes, these who cannot even spell the profane terms they make use of. When I hear such children swear, I have fears that their parents swear, or have neglected their duty toward them. When I hear a person swear profanely, I have no confidence in him on other subjects, if he has no conscientious scruples about swearing, which he knows is forbidden in holy writ, he will have none about lying, and other things. It is a sin without temptation, and can be indulged in, only because forbidden. Why will not every Editor, every Minister, and every decent and moral character, array themselves at once against this evil; which has so widely spread through the nation. I propose that there be formed, at once, in every school district, in every town, where profanity exists, a society, denominated "a society for the suppression of profanity,"—let constitutions be formed, or that mode thought best to put an end to the sinful, ungentlemanly practice. I do hope to hear from the pulpit, and every printing press, on this subject.

Let the exercises be accompanied, with the prayers of every one, that our rulers, and children may hereafter be ashamed of this evil.

S. W.

The Practicability of Modern Surgery.—We witnessed, on Sunday morning last, an illustration of advancement of medical art in modern days, in seeing Professor Dunbar operate on the head of a child laboring under hydrocephalus (or dropsy of the brain.) An infant, eight months old, exhibiting the disease to an extent of presenting a head measuring twenty-three and a half inches in circumference and fifteen and a half inches from ear to ear, was operated upon. Those enormous measurements were quickly reduced and materially brought down by the abstraction of a

very considerable quantity of watery fluid. The operation appeared not to inflict pain or suffering to a great extent upon the little patient, who has since been doing well. The relief afforded thus far promises material advantage in forwarding and promoting the ultimate cure. We understand that this is the second time this operation has been performed by Dr. Dunbar. [Baltimore Post.]

## DISCOVERIES IN THE SCIENCE OF OPTICS.

A valuable addition to the science of optics has recently been completed in London by E. Solomon Optician to the Royal Family, who has constructed Spectacles from a valuable mineral. This is said to be the only improvement effected in lenses for the last twenty years. An English paper, mentioning this discovery, says, "such spectacles surpass all others in modern use, being of less specific gravity than glass or pebbles—are not sundered by the aqueous exhalation of the eyes—convey a delightful coolness to the ganglia of the vision when engaged at any minute employment, either by day or candle light; in fact, beneficial results will be realized from their adaptation which can be imagined by those accustomed to use common ones."

The same celebrated optician is the inventor of a voice conductor for deaf persons, measuring only a quarter of an inch in diameter, which has proved wonderfully successful, and by which the sounds of most distant speaking in a church, theatre, public assembly, etc., can be heard so pleasantly, as to produce immediate relief to all those laboring under the apparent loss of hearing.—*Boston Cultivator.*

**Destructive Machine.**—A London paper mentions a newly invented exploding machine, so powerful that 100 sail of the line might be destroyed by a single small ship, constructed on the new principle. Description is given of the destroying machine.

## Farm, and Tavern Stand for Sale.

THE subscriber, will sell his beautiful establishment near Greene corner, on the upper stage road, Augusta to Portland. Said stand, is located near a steady meeting on the Sabbath, an excellent school, Post Office, stores and mechanic shops. Said farm an excellent wood lot, with some valuable timber, a sawmill might be built on the premises, or a tanyard, which is much wanted; it also contains small orchards. The Tavern will be continued present, and a humble hope is entertained, that civil and moral customers, will be satisfied with and fees. Please call soon, for further information.

CHARLES ROBBIN

Greene, Ken. Co., Jan. 1st, 1841.

**The Maine Farmer, and Journal of the Useful Arts,** is published every Saturday, by WILLIAM NOYES; E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2,00 a year. \$2,50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance, and a proportional deduction to those who pay by the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by delivery to an Agent in any town in the State, will be delivered in payment, if delivered within the year.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publisher; and payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more have been received, should be paid for.

When Agents make remittances it is very important that they distinctly state to whom the money is sent, and at what Post Office each paper paid, as we cannot otherwise well find the name of books.

All letters on business must be free of postage, should be directed to the Publisher at Winthrop. Communications sent by mail should also be directed to that place.

Any person who will obtain six subscribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy for his services.

A few short advertisements will be inserted following rates. All less than a square \$1,00 for insertions. \$1,25 per square, for three insertions, and three weeks at one half these rates.

O. L. SANBORN, 22 Exchange St., Portland, publishing Agent for that city.

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